

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently amended) A composite board comprising:

a first board having a first grain;

a second board having a second grain; and

a mediate board securely sandwiched between the first board

and the second board, the mediate board having a grain perpendicular to the first grain and the second grain such that deformation of the composite board is

avoided as by interaction among between the first grain, the second ~~grain~~ and grain and the grain of the mediate board to harmonize ~~harmonizes~~ expansion or

contraction of the first board and the second board, the mediate board having a

notch formed in an edge face of the mediate board and a tongue formed on an

opposing edge face to enable the composite board to connect to an adjacent

composite board, the mediate board having (a) a plurality of slits formed

latitudinally across at least one side face thereof in longitudinally spaced

relationship, and (b) a plurality of longitudinal slits formed longitudinally in the

mediate board in spaced latitudinal relationship to intersect the plurality latitudinal

slits on the at least one side face to reinforce structural integrity of the composite board and overcome stress resulting from temperature and humidity change inside the composite board.

Claims 2 – 7 (Cancelled).

Claim 8 (Currently amended) A ~~The composite board as claimed in claim 5,~~
~~wherein comprising:~~

a first board having a first grain;

a second board having a second grain; and

a mediate board securely sandwiched between the first board

and the second board, the mediate board having a grain perpendicular to the first grain and the second grain such that deformation of the composite board is avoided by interaction between the first grain, the second grain and the grain of the mediate board to harmonize expansion or contraction of the first board and the second board, the mediate board having a notch formed in an edge face of the mediate board and a tongue formed on an opposing edge face to enable the composite board to connect to an adjacent composite board, the mediate board having (a) a plurality of slits formed latitudinally across at least one side face

thereof in longitudinally spaced relationship, and (b) a plurality of spaced inclined
~~the mediate board further has multiple right slanted slits~~ formed in the at least one
side face and respectively intersecting with each one of the plurality of latitudinal
~~slits and multiple left slanted slits each intersecting with each one of the latitudinal~~
~~slits and intersecting with a corresponding one of the right slanted slits~~ on the at
least one side face to increase structural integrity of the composite board and
overcome stress resulting from temperature and humidity change inside the
composite board.

Claim 9 (Currently amended) A composite board comprising:

a first board having a first grain;

a second board securely attached to a side of the first board and
having a second grain perpendicular to the first grain;

a mediate board securely attached to a free side of the second board
and having (a) a notch ~~defined~~ formed in an edge side face of the mediate board,
(b) a tongue ~~oppositely~~ formed with respect to the notch on an opposing edge face,
(c) a plurality of latitudinally directed and longitudinally spaced multiple top slits
~~defined~~ formed in a top face of the mediate board, (d) a plurality of latitudinally
directed and longitudinally spaced and multiple bottom slits ~~defined~~ formed in a
bottom face of the mediate board, (e) a plurality of left slanted slits formed in the

top face of the mediate board and intersecting the plurality of top slits, and (f) a plurality of right slanted slits formed in the bottom face of the mediate board and intersecting the plurality of bottom slits;

a third board securely attached to a free side of the mediate board and having a third grain, the mediate board being sandwiched between the second and third boards; and

a fourth board securely attached to a free side of the third board and having a fourth grain perpendicular to the third grain, the mediate board having a grain being perpendicular to the second grain of the second board and the third grain of the third board,

whereby the tongue and the notch of the mediate board ~~allows~~ allow the composite board to connect to an adjacent composite board and the mutual perpendicular relationship between the first grain and the second grain and between the third grain and the fourth grain harmonize expansion or contraction of the composite board due to change of temperature and humidity in the composite board.

Claims 10 – 12 (Cancelled).